

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence Ashery on September 11, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim 53:

In line 5, after "are generated puncturing patterns" insert:

-- having an identical puncturing rate but having respectively different puncturing block patterns --.

In Claim 57:

In line 5, after "by using puncturing patterns" insert:

-- having an identical puncturing rate but having respectively different puncturing block patterns --.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 48 and 49 are allowed for the reasons presented in the action mailed September 24, 2007.

Claims 1,2,25-47,49-52,55-57 are allowed because the nearest prior art as shown in the admitted prior art and Yi fails to teach an arrangement including a

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transmitter comprising convolutional coding means for convolution-coding input data, and outputting convolution-coded data; puncturing means for puncturing said convolution-coded data using puncturing patterns, and transmission means for transmitting the punctured data, wherein said puncturing means generates puncturing patterns having an identical puncturing rate, but respectively different block patterns.

Claims 53 is allowed because the nearest prior art as shown in the admitted prior art and Yi fails to teach an arrangement including a receiving device comprising: reception / demodulation means for receiving and demodulating a signal transmitted by a transmission source, said transmission source providing a reference matrix from which are generated puncturing patterns having an identical puncturing rate but respectively different puncturing block patterns; depuncturing means for depuncturing the demodulated data using puncturing patterns of the transmission source, and outputting a plural variety of series of depunctured data; combining means for combining the series of depunctured data, and outputting a result of combining; and convolutional decoding means for convolution-decoding the result of combining, and outputting a decoded data.

Claim 54 is allowed because the nearest prior art as shown in the admitted prior art and Yi fails to teach an arrangement including a receiving device comprising: reception / demodulation means for receiving and demodulating each of the signals transmitted by a transmission source by using each of branches, and outputting demodulated data; first multiple puncturing pattern generation means for generating a plural form of puncturing patterns, having an identical rate, but having respectively

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different puncturing block patterns, the first multiple puncturing pattern generation means providing a reference matrix from which the puncturing patterns are generated; first depuncturing means for depuncturing each of demodulated data in quantity corresponding to the number of said branches output from the reception / demodulation means by using the puncturing patterns supplied by the first multiple puncturing pattern generation means, and outputting depunctured data; first combining means for combining each of depunctured data output by the first depuncturing means, symbol by symbol in a unit of block, and outputting a result of combining; and first convolutional decoding means for convolution-decoding the result of combining, and outputting decoded data.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip J Sobutka whose telephone number is 571-272-7887. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew D. Anderson can be reached on 571-272-4711.

4. The central fax phone number for the Office is 571-273-8300.

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Most facsimile-transmitted patent application related correspondence is required to be sent to the Central FAX Number.

CENTRALIZED DELIVERY POLICY: For patent related correspondence, hand carry deliveries must be made to the Customer Service Window (now located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), and facsimile transmissions must be sent to the Central FAX number, unless an exception applies. For example, if the examiner has rejected claims in a regular U.S. patent application, and the reply to the examiner's Office action is desired to be transmitted by facsimile rather than mailed, the reply must be sent to the Central FAX Number.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Philip J Sobutka/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2618

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